

THE CHARTER.

The Main Features of the Proposed New Charter.

Details of the Proposed Charter.

The managers of the new charter, drawn up in Albany to be submitted to the Legislature at the next session, on the 15th of February made rapid progress yesterday in the work and have nearly completed the programme. There is no doubt that it will be finished by to-morrow and is the intention of several of the prominent gentlemen engaged in its formation to proceed to Albany with the document to-morrow. A few minor topics remain to be discussed before being drafted into the instrument, and decision upon the two or three vital points will be postponed until the Legislature has been thoroughly canvassed on the respective subjects, but the majority of the questions under consideration have been disposed of.

It is not proposed by the framers of the new programme to present it in the form of a charter, defining all the powers and privileges involved in the government of the city, as many of these are already included in the existing laws, and to draw up a charter to cover every point would not only necessitate an immense amount of labor, but would greatly augment the embarrassments attending the contemplated change. The operation of the charters now in existence is to continue undisturbed, except where it is superseded by special enactments, which the new charter managers propose to make by the instrument now approaching completion in their hands, and styled "An act in relation to local government in the city and county of New York." This act is not expected to cover all the issues, as there are a few questions of such magnitude as to be deemed worthy of presentation to the Legislature in separate bills. These relate to the elections and the exercise of the powers of the Mayor.

It has already been stated in the *Standard* that the new programme confers additional appointing power upon the Mayor in the organization of some of the city departments, and that it is still a subject of discussion whether that authority, in the event of the act becoming a law, shall be vested in the present Mayor or one elected with all the new functions of that office in view. This question has been one of the most difficult that have arisen in the consultations of the charter managers, and has not yet been decided upon. The subject of the election of the Mayor, from point-to-day, and a provision relating to it be incorporated in the act to be presented to-morrow, but the indications are that it will be postponed for future consideration in connection with other election matters hereafter referred to in this article. The organization of the several city departments, so far as the powers of the Mayor, the framers of the new charter act, will be as follows:—

THE CITY COUNCILS.

are not affected by the new charter and will continue their organization as at present constituted.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

is to consist of two members elected from each judicial district, and one member of appropriate rank from one member from each district shall expire each year. They shall conduct their sessions in public, and the minutes of their proceedings, and no bill or account audited by them shall be paid until after the Board of Supervisors has approved the same. It is further provided that no appropriation made in either the City Council or of the Board of Supervisors shall be effective unless voted for by three-fourths of the members of the Board. The Board shall fix the limits of the estimates previously made for the year upon the object for which the money is appropriated.

THE GENERAL ESTIMATES.

of the expenses for the ensuing year shall be made by the Mayor, and the Board of Supervisors, and the clerk of the City Councils, and shall be submitted to the Board of Estimates and Appropriations.

THE BOARD OF ESTIMATES AND APPROPRIATIONS.

consisting of the Mayor, Comptroller, Counsel of the Corporation, the Presidents of the Boards of Police, Education and Supervisors, the Board of Aldermen, Justices of the Peace, the Comptroller and the Chief Justices of the Superior and Common Pleas Courts. This Board shall, by a majority vote, determine the amount of appropriations to be made for the ensuing year for each Board and department of the city government, and no expenditures shall be incurred during the ensuing year, except in accordance with the provisions and are included within the limits of and estimates passed upon by the Board of Estimates and Appropriations. It is also provided that no salaries in the city government shall be increased within the year after the Board of Estimates and Appropriations has passed its respective appropriations, whose exact aggregate amount only shall be raised by taxes during said year. The Board of Estimates and Appropriations, executive departments, consisting of the departments of Police, Fire, Health, Public Charities and Correction and the Police.

THE POLICE.

is to consist of five Commissioners, to be elected on the 1st of January, and to hold office for one year. The Mayor and the Inspectors of Police are to be appointed by the Board of Commissioners, but no person shall be appointed as an Inspector of Police until he has been appointed by the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners is to be made, except upon the formal conviction of the individual of charges preferred against him.

THE FIRE COMMISSION.

is to consist of five Commissioners, to be appointed by the Mayor. The Chief Engineer is to be appointed by the Board of Commissioners, and the Board of Commissioners is to be made, except upon the formal conviction of the individual of charges preferred against him.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

is to consist of seven members, together with the Health Officer of New York and the President of the Board of Health, and the President of the Board of Health is to be appointed by the Mayor. The Board of Health is to be made, except upon the formal conviction of the individual of charges preferred against him.

THE BOARD OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

is to consist of five commissioners, to be appointed by the Mayor.

THE CENTRAL PARK COMMISSION.

is to consist of five members, and it has been proposed in the consideration of this subject to make the Mayor, the Street Commissioner and the President of the Board of Health members of the Board of Commissioners, and the President of the Board of Health is to be appointed by the Mayor. The Board of Commissioners is to be made, except upon the formal conviction of the individual of charges preferred against him.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

is to consist of five members, and it has been proposed in the consideration of this subject to make the Mayor, the Street Commissioner and the President of the Board of Health members of the Board of Commissioners, and the President of the Board of Health is to be appointed by the Mayor. The Board of Commissioners is to be made, except upon the formal conviction of the individual of charges preferred against him.

THE BOARD OF UNDERWRITERS.

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THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

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